

December 10, 2003

Dear Colleagues:

The New Jersey Emergency Medical Services Council, in cooperation with the Office of Emergency Medical Services, announces the fifth annual New Jersey EMS Awards Program. We are all aware of people in our field who go far beyond what is expected in their day-to-day EMS functions. This is our opportunity to give them the recognition they deserve.

Awards will be presented at a celebration dinner during EMS Week in May 2004. All nominees will receive a letter of congratulations and recipients will receive a plaque. Any interested EMS, police or fire personnel and any organization or private citizen may submit nominations. The 18 award categories are:

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| • EMS BLS Volunteer of the Year | • EMS Educator of the Year |
| • EMS Career BLS EMT Employee of the Year | • EMS Dispatcher "Star of Life" Award |
| • EMS Paramedic of the Year | • EMS "Star of Life" Award |
| • EMS First Responder of the Year | • Citizen "Star of Life" Award |
| • EMS Volunteer Service of the Year | • Youth "Star of Life" Award |
| • EMS Private Provider of the Year | • EMS Public Education Award |
| • EMS Public Provider of the Year | • EMS Career Lifetime Achievement Award |
| • EMS Medical Director of the Year | • EMS Volunteer Lifetime Achievement Award |
| • EMS Administrator of the Year | • EMS Memorial |

Enclosed are the criteria for making nominations in each of these categories. The deadline for receiving nominations is 5 p.m. on March 26, 2004. A panel composed of members of the New Jersey EMS Council and Office of EMS will review nominations and choose the recipients.

We hope you will take this opportunity to recognize and nominate those among us who are outstanding members of the EMS community.

Sincerely,

James N. Pruden, MD, Chairperson
NJ Emergency Medical Services Council

Karen Halupke, RN, M.Ed., Director
Office of Emergency Medical Services

Attachment - EMS Awards Program Criteria

NEW JERSEY EMS AWARDS PROGRAM 2004

Goal: To recognize those who go "above and beyond" in their day-to-day EMS functions.

Awards Categories:

EMS BLS Volunteer of the Year - Honors a currently certified EMT member of a volunteer squad who has at least three years of service and who has assumed a leadership role in EMS by achievement in areas of patient care, public access to EMS, disaster preparedness, public education and/or training in New Jersey.

EMS Career BLS Employee of the Year - Honors a currently certified basic life support career EMS employee who has at least three years of service and who has assumed a leadership role in EMS by achievement in areas of patient care, public access to EMS, disaster preparedness, public education and/or training.

EMS Paramedic of the Year - Honors a currently certified paramedic who has at least three years of ALS service and who has assumed a leadership role in EMS by achievement in areas of patient care, public access to EMS, disaster preparedness, public education and/or training.

EMS First Responder of the Year - Honors a currently certified first responder who has at least three years of service with an organization which provides first response level care (e.g., police, fire, industrial) and who has assumed a leadership role by achievement in areas of on-scene patient care, outstanding 2003 rescue, public access to EMS, disaster preparedness, public education and/or training.

EMS Volunteer Service of the Year - Honors an EMS service staffed by volunteers which has assumed a leadership role in EMS by achievement in areas of patient care, public access to EMS, disaster preparedness, public education and/or training in New Jersey. The service maintains a positive relationship with the communities it serves and has taken meaningful and visible steps to assure the professionalism of its personnel and its quality of patient care. Further, the service has identified areas in which performance could be improved and has taken steps to improve these areas (e.g., response times, quality improvement programs, continuing education) in the past two to three years.

EMS Private Provider of the Year - Honors a privately-owned commercial service which is currently licensed by the State of New Jersey and which has assumed a leadership role in EMS by achievement in areas of patient care, public access to EMS, disaster preparedness, public education and/or training in New Jersey. The service maintains a positive relationship with the communities it serves and has taken meaningful and visible steps to assure the professionalism of its personnel and its quality of patient care. Further, the service has identified areas in which performance could be improved and has taken steps to improve these areas (e.g., response times, quality improvement programs, continuing education) in the past two to three years.

EMS Public Provider of the Year - Honors an EMS service operated by a municipality, not-for-profit hospital, or a county or state agency which is currently licensed by the State of New Jersey and which has assumed a leadership role in EMS by achievement in areas of patient care, public access to EMS, disaster preparedness, public education and/or training in New Jersey. The service maintains a positive relationship with the communities it serves and has taken

meaningful and visible steps to assure the professionalism of its personnel and its quality of patient care. Further, the service has identified areas in which performance could be improved and has taken steps to improve these areas (e.g., response times, quality improvement programs, continuing education) in the past two to three years.

EMS Medical Director of the Year - Honors a physician who has served as a medical director for at least three years, on-line or off-line for either an ALS or a BLS service, and who has made a positive contribution to EMS in New Jersey.

EMS Administrator of the Year - Honors an EMS administrator or manager on the local, county, regional, or state level who has served EMS in some capacity for at least three years and who has made a positive contribution to EMS in New Jersey.

EMS Educator of the Year - Honors a state-certified EMS instructor or course coordinator who has at least three years of EMS service and who has advanced EMS education in New Jersey through outstanding organization or delivery of educational programs to EMS personnel.

EMS Dispatcher "Star of Life" Award - Honors a dispatcher for outstanding effort in processing a New Jersey emergency medical call during 2003 (if available, please include a taped copy of the call).

EMS "Star of Life" Award - Honors an individual, multiple individuals, or teams on the same incident for an outstanding rescue by EMS personnel during 2003.

Citizen "Star of Life" Award - Honors a private citizen for a lifesaving act in which quick thinking, fast action and heroism were demonstrated or for unique advocacy of EMS in New Jersey during 2003.

EMS Public Education Award - Honors an individual or group for outstanding achievement in public education or information, injury prevention or health promotion related to EMS in New Jersey.

EMS Career Lifetime Achievement Award - Honors an individual for lifetime achievement (service of 20 or more years) in the EMS field. At least 15 years of that experience must have been as a career EMS employee. A commemorative plaque will also be permanently displayed at the Office of EMS.

EMS Volunteer Lifetime Achievement Award - Honors an individual for lifetime achievement (service of 20 or more years) in the EMS field. At least 15 years of that experience must have been as an EMS volunteer. A commemorative plaque will also be permanently displayed at the Office of EMS.

EMS "Star of Life" Youth Award – Honors a child (12 years or younger) for a lifesaving act in which quick thinking, fast action and heroism were demonstrated or for unique advocacy of EMS in New Jersey during 2003.

EMS Memorial - Honors those in New Jersey's EMS community who have lost their lives in the line of duty. A commemorative plaque will be permanently displayed at the Office of EMS.

Instructions for Submissions

Any interested EMS, police or fire personnel, organization or any private citizen may submit a nomination. Please note: where applicable, all nominees must be currently certified or licensed at the level for which they are being nominated. Heroic actions cited in the "Star of Life" awards must have taken place within the State of New Jersey. Nomination for outstanding service and/or achievements for the "...of the Year Awards" must have taken place within the State of New Jersey. The "Lifetime Achievement Awards" must have been served with a New Jersey organization or EMS service with at least 10 years of the time for consideration.

Nominations should be no longer than 4 typed pages, including any attachments, letters of support, or clippings. Each nomination submitted should have the "2004 EMS Award Nomination" form attached and include:

1. The category for which the nomination is being made.
2. The name of the individual or organization being nominated (please include a complete address and daytime telephone number and a copy of the nominee's current certification card or license, if available).
3. The name of the individual and/or organization submitting the nomination (please include a complete address and daytime telephone number).
4. A description of the significant accomplishments or circumstances for which the nominee should be considered for an award (please include the name of the nominee's organization or service).

Nominations will be judged by a panel of members composed of the New Jersey EMS Council and members of the OEMS staff. Nominees can be nominated in more than one category, but will not be considered for any category in which they were not nominated. Nominations for more than one category must be submitted individually. When submitting a nomination, please use the "2004 EMS Week Awards Nomination Form." The nominations and supporting documentation cannot be returned, please send copies only. **The deadline for receiving nominations is March 26, 2004 at 5 p.m.** Nominations should be sent to the Office of EMS, P.O. Box 360, Trenton NJ 08625-0360, or faxed to OEMS at (609) 633-7839, attention Chuck McSweeney.